

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AGR-20 OIC-04 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 COME-00 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

FDRE-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 DRC-01 /211 W

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O 281533Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5894

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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PASS AGRICULTURE. ROME FOR FODAG.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL: EEC INDECISION
ON RENEWAL OF FOOD AID CONVENTION 1971

1. DURING INITIAL DISCUSSIONS ON DRAFT PROTOCOLS RENEWING INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT, 1971, EC DELEGATE EATON STATED EEC WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS IF SUCH CONFERENCE WAS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION EXTENDING FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC) AS WELL AS WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION. EATON SAID EEC COUNCIL HAD APPROVED EXTENSION OF WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION BUT HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH DECISION ON FAC. HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHEN SUCH A DECISION MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING.

2. DECISION ON WHETHER TO GO AHEAD WITH CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 30 WILL NOT BE TAKEN

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UNTIL MORNING SESSION NOVEMBER 29. FROM TENOR OF

DISCUSSIONS SO FAR, OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL ARE: (1) TO GO AHEAD WITH CONFERENCE APPROVING PRESENTATION TO GOVERNMENTS FOR SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF IWA WITH ONLY WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION, OR (2) POSTPONING CONFERENCE UNTIL END OF FEBRUARY 1974 TO GIVE EEC MAXIMUM TIME TO REACH DECISION ON FOOD AID CONVENTION. FEBRUARY DEADLINE CHOSEN AS BEING LATEST DATE BY WHICH IWC SECRETARIAT AND DEPOSITORY AUTHORITY (US) COULD PROCESS NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR SIGNATURE PERIOD APRIL 2 - 23.

3. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, US DEL PLANS TO SUPPORT POSTPONEMENT AS MEANS OF PUTTING PRESSURE ON EEC TO COME TO DECISION EXTENDING FAC. IF EEC UNABLE TO DECIDE BY DEADLINE, RESPONSIBILITY FOR TERMINATING FAC WOULD THEN REST SQUARELY ON COMMUNITY. CANADA AND AUSTRALIA HAVE POSITION SIMILAR TO OURS; IN FACT THEY ARE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO APPROVE WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION ALONE AT THIS TIME.

4. DEPENDING ON HOW HARD WE WISH TO PRESS EC TO RENEW FAC, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH BETWEEN NOW AND FEBRUARY TO BRING MATTER OF SEEMING LACK OF INTEREST OF LDC'S IN FATE OF FAC TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE LDC OFFICIALS. AT COUNCIL SESSION SO FAR ONLY INDIA, OF DOZEN OR SO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRESENT, HAVE URGED EXTENSION OF FAC. THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT LDC INDIFFERENCE TO FAC SINCE LDC DELEGATES TO WHEAT COUNCIL ARE GENERALLY LOCAL EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH COMMERCIAL WHEAT TRADE MATTERS. NEVERTHELESS, AT A TIME WHEN US AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE BEING CRITICIZED FOR NOT DOING ENOUGH FOR THEM- LDC'S MIGHT BE REMINDED THAT US WAS IN FOREFRONT IN WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE WITH FAC AND THAT IF FAC IS NOT RENEWED THE LDC'S WILL HAVE ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME FOR NOT HAVING PRESSED THE EEC FORCEFULLY ENOUGH.

DECONTROLLED FOLLOWING NOVEMBER 30, 1974.

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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